GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1402
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2002
MENTAL HOSPITALS
ABUL HASNAT KHAN;MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED;RAM CHANDRA DOME

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Mental Hospitals in the country, State-wise;

(b) the total number of mentally challenged persons in the country, State-wise;

(c) the growth rate of mentally challenged persons during the last three years; and

(d) the concrete measures taken by the Government to provide facilities to these patients in the hospitals?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a): The number of Government run mental hospitals, State-wise are: Andhra Pradesh (2), Assam (1), Delhi (1), Goa (1), Gujarat (4), Jammu & Kashmir (2), Jharkhand (1), Karnataka (1), Kerala (3), Maharashtra (4), Madhya Pradesh (2), Nagaland (1), Punjab (1), Rajasthan (1), Tamil Nadu (1), Uttar Pradesh (3) and West Bengal (6).In addition, there are two Central Government Institutions - the Central Institute of Psychiatry in Jharkhand and National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences in Karnataka.

(b): The State-wise data on persons suffering from mental disorders is not available. Epidemiological studies have revealed that 1 to 2% of the population has major mental disorders and 5 to 10% suffer from minor mental disorders.

(c): The number of mentally challenged persons (which includes those suffering from mental illness and those with mental retardation) is increasing due to changes in demographics such as increase in population and over all increase in the rate of depression world-wide.

(d): The Government has already initiated a pilot programme for providing care for persons with mental disorders in selected districts in the Country. The District Mental Health Programme is currently being implemented in 27 districts covering 22 States and Union Territories. Its aim is to identify persons suffering from various mental disorders and epilepsy and manage them at the primary health care center and district level, by trained doctors and with the active support of the families and the community in which the patient lives. Also during the Tenth Five Year Plan, the Government has envisaged, inter-alia, to upgrade the infrastructural facilities of the mental health care institutions and improve the facilities in the Psychiatric Wings of Medical Colleges in the Government Sector.